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totality over any other station. Wollal is accessible by fortnightly commercial steamers, sailing from Perth to Broome; and thence by chartered local small schooner or launch to the beach opposite Wollal. There is a government well 150 yards from the postoffice, with good water in abundance, and trees in whose midst camp could be established. Fuel is plentiful and natives can be employed to assist in the rough work, but there are no mechanics. The Lick Observatory definitely plans to dispatch a modest expedition to Wollal. No other expeditions to that point have been announced, but I hope that our expedition may have the pleasure of travel and life with other expeditions.

4. In southeastern Queensland the villages of *Coongoola*, *Goondiwindi*, *Stanthorpe* and *Casino* are well within the shadow path, and accessible with fair ease. Altho the promise of clear skies is fairly strong, yet September is a month of considerable rainfall. It must be remembered that the season corresponds to March in the northern hemisphere. Cold winds and dust storms are prevalent. It would seem that expeditions travelling from other continents could with wisdom continue on to Wollal rather than to establish themselves with greater ease in Queensland.

I have at hand a large amount of detailed information which would interest prospective eclipse observers and this information is available upon request. W. W. C.

THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE OF SEPTEMBER 10, 1923

This eclipse will be observable under very promising conditions from the vicinities of Lompoc and San Diego, California, from the large islands lying southerly from Santa Barbara and westerly from San Diego, from Lower California, and from the interior of western Mexico. Lompoc and San Diego are well within the shadow path, and the central line of the shadow crosses the island of San Clemente. San Nicholas Island lies a few miles southwest of the central line and Santa Rosa Island a few miles northeast of the line. Santa Catalina Island is easily accessible by commercial steamers from San Pedro. There are no regular steamers plying between the other islands and the California coast cities, but the services of small launches could readily be secured. The central line enters Lower California in Todos Santos Bay near Ensenada and passes east-southeasterly across Mexico, intersecting the shore of the Gulf of Mexico a short distance south of Tampico. The weather condi-

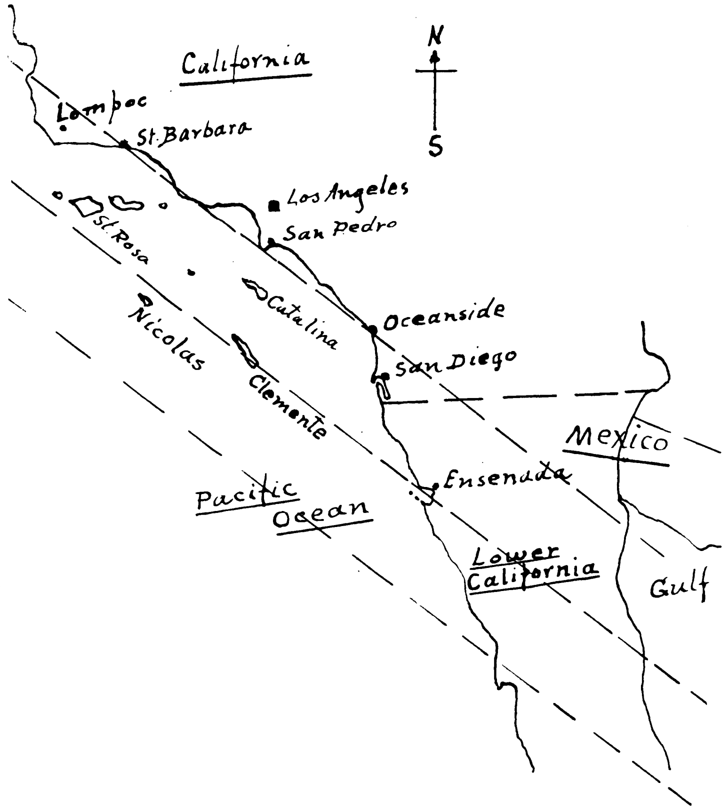

FIG. 1
Section of the Total Eclipse Path, September 10, 1923

tions in Lower California in the vicinity of Ensenada and on the islands are almost certain to be good in early September. Coast fogs are liable to be the only obstacle, but the eclipse hour, 1 P. M., could scarcely be more favorable for the absence of fogs. The Mexican Weather Service has undertaken to secure observations on weather and other conditions at the times of the day when the eclipse will occur at each of several Mexican stations, thru-out the first half of September of this year and next, in continuation of similar series of observations made last year. It should be said that the summer rainy season in Mexico does not usually terminate until after the date of the eclipse.

In company with Mr. A. H. Babcock and Mr. W. B. Isaacs, of San Francisco, I visited Ensenada and the region lying east and southeasterly therefrom in the period September 3-12, 1921. Our travels by chartered automobile took us from Ensenada 65 miles east-southeasterly to Alamo and 100 miles to the Trinidad Valley; thence back to Ensenada over the same route; and later southeasterly 21 miles from Ensenada to the valley of the Santa Clara River. During the nine days we were in the eclipse region of Lower California, the sky was absolutely free from clouds and of a deep blue color. I have never seen a bluer sky except from the summit of Mount Whitney. In the Trinidad Valley the blue extended right down to the summits of the enclosing chains of mountains. On the three nights that we were in Ensenada the ocean fogs formed, but they melted away in the forenoons and left the sky in the middle of the day absolutely clear. West-northwestern trade winds seem to prevail from late forenoon until late afternoon, both at Ensenada and in the Trinidad Valley.

The roads leading to possible eclipse stations are extremely poor. They are of deep sand in many parts of the valleys and river-beds, and are rough and steep over the mountains. Summer rains usually occur in the eastern half of the Lower California peninsula, but they are expected to be over by September 1st. These rains are not expected in the western half of the peninsula. A station in the valley of the Santa Clara River, about 30 miles southeasterly from Ensenada, should be almost certain to offer first class observing conditions. Ensenada itself is only four or five miles from the central line of totality, and eclipse parties could live there in fair comfort, either in their own established camps or at the small hotels and restaurants. At all other points essentially every item of equipment and supply would require to be provided by the expeditions themselves. The water in regions other than Ensenada is none too plentiful, but is obtainable at moderate cost and inconvenience.

The high altitude of the Sun and the fairly long duration of totality, about 3^m35^s, on San Clemente, and in Lower California, and the promising weather conditions, should tempt a goodly number of experienced observers to establish their stations at points conveniently reached from the southwestern part of the United States.

I am in possession of much detailed information concerning conditions in the region described, and this is available to prospective observers on request. W. W. C.